

NORTH RIVER SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 200
Pacific County, Washington
September 1, 1992 Through August 31, 1994

Schedule Of Findings

1. The District Should Comply With Bid Law Requirements

During fiscal year 1993, the district purchased a bus for \$37,970. The district was unable to provide evidence of publication of a public notice/call-for-bids advertisement.

RCW 28A.335.190 states in part:

(1) When, in the opinion of the board of directors of any school district, the cost of any furniture, supplies, equipment, building, improvements, or repairs, or other work or purchases, except books, will equal or exceed the sum of fifty thousand dollars, complete plans and specifications for such work or purchases shall be prepared and notice by publication given in at least one newspaper of general circulation within the district, once each week for two consecutive weeks, of the intention to receive bids therefor and that specifications and other information may be examined at the office of the board or any other officially designated location . . . (Emphasis ours.)

Noncompliance with RCW 28A.335.190 apparently occurred due to an inaccurate interpretation of bid law requirements by district personnel.

Without soliciting competitive bids, the district cannot be assured that the bus was purchased at the lowest possible cost.

We recommend the district follow proper competitive bid procedures to ensure compliance with the requirements of RCW 28A.335.190.